

[redacted]
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NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

26 April 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

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SUBJECT : Conversation with Lt. Colonel Howard and Captain Lisciotti
Regarding [redacted] Communications Link

1. On 20 April I had a conversation with Lt. Colonel Howard and Captain Lisciotti on the general subject of the type of information they were expecting to receive on the newly activated [redacted] communications channel established as one step in the implementation of the NRO concept. In a general way we covered this subject not only from the standpoint of what types of communications they wished to receive, but also the types we could expect from them. Some of the general statements made by Lt. Colonel Howard are about as follows:

a. He says that General Curtin will be interested in messages incoming from ITEK and LMSC particular to [redacted] interests and dealing with matters incident to the Configuration Control Board. He is also interested in outgoing messages from this Headquarters on the same general subject area.

b. Under ARGON Lt. Colonel Howard is interested in launch parameters, cycle times, orbital data, etc., so that he may further disseminate this type of information to Army Map Service and/or [redacted]

c. Under the CORONA heading, he is interested in certain types of [redacted] messages exchanged between this Headquarters and Colonel Murphy also on the general subject of camera performance, technical aspects of telemetry as it relates to camera activity, and, of course, general SITSUMS on how the mission is progressing. Howard said that Dr. Charyk was extremely interested in this aspect of the program, the details of which he would ordinarily not wish to request through Air Force white channels. When asked what Charyk might do with this information, Howard said that he would plan to keep General Taylor, Mr. Gilpatrick, et al, advised

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of mission progress. I for one am not certain that this will jibe with Dr. Scoville's primary role in the control of CORONA operations. Howard then added, somewhat informally, that Dr. Charyk's view was that "since he is paying for CORONA, he feels he is entitled to this information". I am certain that Dr. Charyk did not authorize Lt. Colonel Howard to make this sort of statement.

d. Under the general heading of incoming messages, Howard feels that their traffic will include security clearance requests in connection with NRO projects, as well as certain messages to Dr. Scoville and/or the DCI which must now be hand carried.

2. In view of the rather tenuous outline above, I suggested to Howard that he get together with General Curtin and Colonel Martin and come up with a paper to us covering the subject in more detail, and that if after considering this we felt a further conversation was indicated with regard to the substance of [redacted] traffic, we could then either get together personally or offer suggested amendments. This Howard said he would do, so as I see it, the ball is in his corner on this item.

[redacted]
JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
Assistant Chief, DPD

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DPD:JACunningham, Jr. [redacted]